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Message Text

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41-S
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03

SCCT-01 AID-05 CCO-00 FBO-02 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NIC-01 NSC-05 SP-02 OCE-00 OPR-01 PA-01 USSS-00

RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-04 CU-02

IO-10 CIEP-01 NEA-06 /088 W
---------- 038702
O R 081447Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6770
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION NATO
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 8757

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS TU
SUBJ: ERUPTION OF STUDENT VIOLENCE

REF: ANKARA 8740 (NOTAL)

1. FOR FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN TWO YEARS STUDENT DISORDERS
HAVE ERUPTED IN ANKARA NOVEMBER 7-8.
FOLLOWING IS FACTUAL ACCOUNT OF SITUATION
AS IT DEVELOPED OVER THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

2. AT MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (METU), A LARGE
NUMBER OF STUDENTS (SUPPOSEDLY PROTESTING TUITION CHARGES,
DORMITORY ARRANGEMENTS, AND FOOD SERVICE) ORGANIZED A BOYCOTT
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PREVENTING ENTRY INTO UNIVERSITY AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 7.

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JENDARMERIE AND OTHER MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS SURROUNDED CAMPUS,
AND AS OF 1500 HOURS LOCAL TIME NOVEMBER 8 CAMPUS IS ABSOLUTLEY
INACTIVE. DURING NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 7-8 FIRING BROKE OUT
WITHIN UNVIERSITY AND POLICE RETURNED FIRE. A FEW POLICE AND
SEVERAL STUDENTS WERE INJURED.

3. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO ANTI-AMERICAN OR ANTI-KISSINGER
SLOGANS USED AT THE TIME, AT APPROXIMATELY 1730 LOCAL NOVEMBER 7
A SMALL GROUP OF METU STUDENTS WHO HAD APPARENTLY HOPED
EARLIER TO INTERRUPT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SCHEDULED MOTORCADE
FROM THE AIRPORT (ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANCELLATION OF HIS VISIT HAD
BEEN MADE ONLY 30 MINUTES BEFORE INCIDENT OCCURED) BURNED A
HOME-MADE AMERICAN FLAG IN FRONT OF USIS OFFICES IN CENTRAL
ANKARA. POLICE WERE ALERTED TO POSSIBILITY OF DISRUPTION OF
SECRETARY'S MOTORCADE IN THAT AREA AND HAD TAKEN PRECAUTION
OF CHANGING HIS ROUTE.

4. AT HACETTEPE UNIVEOZZD
OYMWP BBHGMYYXXGASGROUP OF RIGHT WING
STUDENTS CLOSED ENTRANCES TO VARIOUS FACULTIES. THIS ACTION WAS
APPARENTLY MARKED BY SERIOUS CONFLICTS BETWEEN FAR RIGHT AND FAR
LEFT STUDENT GROUPS.

5. ON NOVEMBER 7 IN ERZURUM THERE WAS A REPORTED STUDENT
MOVEMENT (REASONS NOT YET KNOWN) AT ATATURK UNIVERSITY.

6. PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT MET AT 1100 LOCAL TIME WITH PRESEIDENT
KORUTURK ON EFFORTS TO FORM NEW CABINET. UPON
LEAVING PRESIDENT'S HOME, ECEVIT WAS ASKED BY PRESS ABOUT
ABOVE INCIDENTS. HE REPLIED: "WHATEVER MY FUTURE POSITION
IS, I WILL ALWAYS BE OPPOSED TO ACTIONS OF CERTAIN PERSONS OR
QUARTERS WHO SEEK TO FORCE CERTAIN IDEAS ON OUR COMMUNITY,
BY FORCE, BY BULLYING, OR BY SHEDDING BLOOD OF OTHERS OF THE
SOCIETY. I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THESE INCIDENTS SINCE THIS
MORNING, AND I AM CLOSELY CONCERNED WITH THEM. I AM HOPING
THAT NOBODY, BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN TURKEY,
WILL NURTURE DARK DESIGNS AND WILL ATTEMPT TO USE THE YOUTH,
OR OUR CHILDREN, FOR THE TOOLS OF THEIR DARK DESIGNS."
IN ANSWER TO ANOTHER QUESTION, ECEVIT SAID THAT "REGARDLESS
OF WHERE IT COMES FROM, BRUTAL FORCE CANNOT BE TOLERATED OR
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EXCUSED".

7. DURING THE INCIDENTS ON NOVEMBER 7 AT METU AND ON
NOVEMBER 8 AT HACETTEPE, THERE WERE A NUMBER OF INJURIES,
AT LEAST THREE OF WHOM ARE NOW IN CRITICAL CONDITION. AT THE MOMENT
BOTH UNIVERSITIES ARE UNDER CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES. AT THE
ANKARA POLITICAL SCIENCE AND LAW FACULTIES, NORMALLY THE MOST
POLITICALLY ACTIVE IN THE CITY, CLASSES ARE PROCEEDING NORMALLY.

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MACOMBER

NOTE BY OC/T: CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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